LGBT + History Month

Founded by: SCHOOLS OUT

Lindsay Cooper 1951-2013

Bassoon and oboe player, composer for TV and film

Lindsay Cooper was an English bassoon and oboe player and composer. A composer is someone who writes music to help film and TV tell their stories.

Right up to the end of her life, Cooper remained a highly respected and influential figure in the musical world. She made great contributions to avant-garde and progressive rocket music. She began playing the bassoon at a young age and went on to study at the Royal Academy of Music.

She was best known for her band Henry Cow as well as collaborated with a number of musicians and cofounded the Feminist Improvising Group.

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She wrote scores for film and TV and a song cycle Oh Moscow which was performed live around the world in 1987.

She also recorded a number of solo albums, including Rags (1980), The Gold Diggers (1983), and Music For Other Occasions (1986).

Cooper was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in the late 1970s, but did not disclose it to the musical community until the late 1990s when her illness prevented her from performing live.

In September 2013, Cooper died from the illness at the age of 62.

An inspiring figure to young composers

Find out more about this years theme 'Behind The Lens' and the other featured LGBT+ people here:

lgbtplushistorymonth.co.uk

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